You want a committee for the Kulakkada special school. The of the Sa... committee for the Kumaranallur school; but there is no committee for ...00 for each well. school. I have inspected both the schools. The Kulakkada school thing. but the Kumaranallur school is not quite satisfactory. The efficie school does not depend upon its having a committee.

You want a new curriculum of studies. If you have a spec member of the Legis- studies, how would it fit into the English School course? The st cial members that are under the special curriculum may not later on be in a position t nt Bill. for admission to the Intermediate or the B. A. class.

As for compulsory education, I do not think that it is quite necessar lasses. Literacy is quite widespread in your community. You may not be well up in English, but almost cent per cent are well up in the vernacular.

As for a different curriculum for the Veda section in the Sanskrit College, it is a matter of detail. If you will put down in writing what changes you want, they will be considered.

In regard to the exemption of the income from *Karamozhivu* properties from income-tax, I have already given the reply that such exemption cannot be granted.

In regard to tanks which were private at the time of the *ayacut*, but have since been treated as *poramboke*, I have already said that such tanks may, on proof that they are private, be registered.

139. Obstacles to the uplift of Pulayas and other depressed Hindu communities.

Mr. Karumban Daivathan (Member, Nominated) said that the Pulaya, Paraya, Kurava and other depressed classes were the descendants of the original inhabitants of Travancore and that they worked day and night for the material welfare of the country. They deserved to be regarded as very valuable assets to the country. They were deplorably backward in point of education, and the remission of fees allowed to their children for purposes of education would not very much improve their condition unless they were given free meal also. The Member requested that they might be given such help as was granted to the depressed classes in Mysore, and that schools and hostels might be established in places thickly inhabited by the depressed communities.

The Member then requested that the scholarship given to a Pulaya boy by name Parameswaran attending the Ayurvedic College in Trivandrum might be raised substantially and that scholarships be continued to the pupils belonging to the depressed classes even in the event of their failure in a class for a year or so. He then suggested that some Pulaya girls might be taught midwifery at Government cost.

The Member next prayed that steps might be taken to teach cottage industries to members of his community.

The Member complained that Heads of Departments were not carrying out the orders of Government in the matter of appointing members of his community and requested that as many of them as possible might be appointed as constables in the Police Department, and as peons, punka-pullers and other menial servants. He pointed out that a Pulaya boy by name Narayanan was for sometime employed in the Excise Department, but that he was without any appointment now, and requested that he might be given a suitable post.

He referred to the case of a Pulaya boy whose certificate was withheld as he had changed his name when the examination was over and requested that the certificate might be ordered to be issued to him. He then urged that Government might undertake to impart religious instruction to the depressed communities and that religious institutions might be established for the purpose. Passing on to other grievances, the Member prayed that all public roads might be thrown open for the use of the depressed classes that house sites be given in convenient localities; that wells and tanks be sunk for their use; that a special Commissioner be appointed as in the situ...

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(3) A c
special school, as i and that a law of inheritance be passed for the Pulaya community.
might be empower
uded by requesting that, with a view to stop the drink evil among
(4) Malayses, the sale of liquor to them might be penalised.
judges of Village P
tion of the populatic*ly*.—With regard to the admission of Pulaya children to all schools,
Municipal Councils. t schools, except perhaps about 20 or 25, are now open to all com-
king measures to have even the few remaining schools thrown open
(5) Compuls My complaint is that these Pulaya children are not taking ad-
Brahmins in view of ssions to the extent they ought to. Of course, Mr. Daivathan
education, both religious tarving and that English education is very costly; but no im-
(6) The instruct*d* in any community without a certain amount of self-sacrifice
the teachers provement it can be effecte*d* inconvenience.
and readiness to undergo meal for children, you quoted Mysore. I do not think
In regard to free r school children.
Mysore gives free meal to gone to Mysore myself, nor do I know the rules. I
Member.—I have not has given great help to the depressed classes. I only
only heard so. But Mysore o the same for us.
request this Government to d concessions. The question of a free meal bristles with
Dewan.—We also give ent can, no doubt, give a certain amount of money and
practical difficulties. Governm nd distribute it among the children, but the distribu-
ask teachers to prepare food v. If Mr. Daivathan and his people can bring into
tion may not be done properl n meals could be made to reach the children, the
existence bodies through whom
question might be considered. y to start such institutions.
Member.—We have no mon s first come into existence. Then they may be
Dewan.—Let the organisati for the disbursement of agricultural loans.
used as agencies for this purpose a we do give scholarships even in the case of students
In regard to scholarships.
who have failed for a year or tw last year.
Member.—It was stoppe ing given them in one or two cases. These are all
Dewan.—I remember ha s. 6,000 has been allotted this year and a committee
matters of detail. A sum of pose of suggesting improvements in the grant of
has been appointed for the pu regard to particulars, you should approach the
scholarships and freeships. Government can only pass certain rules. They can-
Director of Public Instruction. heir working; that is a matter for departmental
not enter into the details of
heads.
al officers is too vague. Government expect their
Your complaint about uties properly.
local officers to discharge their
istries, I have to say something. You must start
In regard to cottage i ill give them loans. We will finance them.
Co-operative Societies and we
equire security.
Member.—Government y will do in many cases.
Dewan.—Personal secu , that is also a matter of detail. Mr. Van Ross tells
In regard to appointmen to resigned his post and went away.
me that the young man you refe
In regard to religious teach , Government cannot undertake to impart reli-
gious instruction to any communit
taking steps to pass rules to give house sites
As regards house sites, we
to members of the depressed classe
g water. If you bring local needs to the notice
Similarly, in regard to drin sed. You should point out places where wells
of local authorities, they will be rec money would be required, and what amount
to be sunk and say what amou

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ther commu-

you are willing to contribute. That was what was done in the case of the Sa temples of South Travancore. Government agreed to give them Rs. 100 for each well. They agreed to do the manual labour. You can also do the same thing.

Member.—About the certificate.

Dewan.—That is a matter of detail.

As regards a law of inheritance, you must request some member of the Legislative Council to introduce a private Bill. It is the non-official members that are bringing such Bills. There is the Nair Regulation Amendment Bill.

Member.—We have no representative there.

Dewan.—Mr. Ramankunju of Alleppey represents the depressed classes.

As regards drink, I have said repeatedly that Government cannot use any compulsion. If people voluntarily cease to drink, certainly they are at liberty to do it.

Member.—Roads are not open to us.

Dewan.—All public roads are open to all communities. That is the law of the country.

140. Some suggestions for the advancement of the Cheramar community.

Mr. N. J. Joseph (Member, Nominated) began with a prayer for changing the caste name of his community 'Pulayar', which meant polluted people, into 'Cheramar', meaning the ancient inhabitants of *cheranad*, and spoke at great length on the origin and traditions of the community. They numbered about four lakhs in the State and claimed to have ruled over Kerala in the past. They traced their origin from the original inhabitants of South India whose descendants beyond the ghats were known as 'Pallars and Pallis'. That such a people, with time-hon[oured] traditions and a hoary antiquity should bear an appellation synonymous with w[orse] lution was an irony of fate, and the Member entered a vigorous plea [for] mediate obliteration of that insufferable stigma. [He] should be [gi]ven the [op]portunity

The next prayer of the Member was that the petitions usually submitted by the depressed classes might be forwarded to the heads of the departments concerned for *report* and not for *disposal*, and that prompt endorsements might be given to the petitioners from the Huzur Office direct with specific reasons in the event of the refusal of any prayer. The present practice of forwarding petitions for disposal entailed great hardship on the petitioners because those petitions step by step drifted down to the very lowest subordinates in the service who had little or no sympathy for the backward classes.

The Member then detailed the difficulties under which his community was labouring in the matter of dwelling sites. The existing systems of land tenure precluded the Cheramars and communities labouring under similar social disabilities from acquiring absolute ownership of land. The grant of three acres of land offered by the Government in out of the way places and hilly tracts was hardly calculated to redress their grievance. Moreover, Government could ill afford to forego the benefit of their labour, which was a national asset for the people's good. The Member, therefore, requested that Government might be pleased to acquire lands near towns and villages and grant them as dwelling sites to the members of his community who stood in sore need of them. Government might make an annual allotment in the Land Revenue Budget for paying the compensation for the lands thus acquired; and the amount might be realised from the grantees in five or six annual instalments. The Member spoke also about the various difficulties to which they were being subjected in the matter of registry of *puduval* and *poramboke* lands. Speaking about such lands in the northern parts of the State, the Member pointed out that since most of the lands in Shertallai, Vaikam and other taluks were backwater *porambokes*, the rules insisting on their auction placed the members of the depressed classes at a disadvantage in the matter of securing such lands for themselves. Chief among the other disabilities enumerated by the Member was the unsympathetic attitud[e]

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